WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of verifying that medication to be administered is correct, comprising:

scanning a bar code on an Identification bracelet worn by a patient to ascertain patient information;

scanning a bar code pertaining to medication to be administered to the patient to ascertain medication information;

accessing a network to verify that the patient information and the medication information is correct and authorized and recording same in memory; and

making a notification that the medication may be given to the patient provided the using of the network verifies that the patient information and the medication information is correct.

2. A method as in claim 1, wherein a nurse conducts the scanning and transmits a verification signal upon witnessing that the patient was administered the medication.

3. A method as in claim 1, further comprising activating an alarm If the verifying indicates that the medication is improper for administration to the patient.

4. A method as in claim 1, further comprising scanning a nurse's badge, and using the network to verify that nurse's information scanned from the nurse's badge is correct and authorized.

5. A method as in claim 1, further comprising updating billing to account for a cost of the scanned medication.

6. A method as in claim 1, wherein the using of the network includes interrogating a computer with scheduling to determine whether the medication is being administered too early or too late.

7. A method as in claim 1, wherein the medication is contained in pills that are sealed individually within single-pill containers.

8. A method of administering medication, comprising:

keeping track of each individual one of the pills by machine reading a machine readable code assigned to each of the individual pills;

dispensing an individual one of the pills based on the machine reading;

adjusting inventory requirements for stocking of the individual pills based on the machine reading and the dispensing.

9. A method as in claim 8, further comprising verifying prior to dispensing that the individual pill is scheduled to be taken by the particular patient by checking with scheduling information stored in a computer.

10. A method as in claim 9, further comprising billing a cost for the individual pill based on the machine reading and the verifying.

11. A method as in claim 8, wherein the pills are individually within single-pill containers prior to the dispensing.

12. A drug identification system for marking solid form drugs comprising a pill imprint having a first marking in the form of a human recognizable symbol and a second marking in the form of a machine readable bar code, wherein the human recognizable symbolic icon provides a general identification suitable for categorical identification and communication, and the machine readable bar code provides an item identification.

13. The drug identification system of claim 12 wherein the marking is a composite marking that combines the first icon marking and the second bar code marking into a composite symbol.

14. The drug identification system of claim 12 wherein the bar code is a 2D bar code.

15. A method of determining information concerning a pill, comprising dispensing pills from inventory individually, identifying the source, distributor, medication contents and/or potency expiration date of each of the dispensed pills by scanning a machine readable code assigned to each of the pills individually.

16. A method as in claim 16, wherein the pills are individually within single-pill containers.

17. A method of scanning, comprising scanning a machine readable code while a pill is within a sealed container, decoding information pertaining to the pill from the scanned machine readable code, evaluating the decoded information with respect to whether the pill is safe for administration.

18. A method as in claim 17, wherein the container has a transparent material, the machine readable code being on a surface of the pill visible through the transparent material.

19. A method as in claim 17, further comprising recording a time of day in response to the scanning.

20. A method as in claim 19, further comprising determining efficacy of the pill based in part on the recorded time of day.

21. A method as in claim 17, wherein the machine readable bar code is on the sealed container.

22. A method as in claim 18, further comprising effecting record keeping by reading the micro barcode on the sealed container.

23. A method of record keeping, comprising

scanning a bar code on a container and storing information pertaining to what was scanned, the container containing at least one pill; and

based on the stored information, either determining efficacy of the pill or making a warning that taking whatever was just scanned may not be recommended medically or may not be optimal for pill efficacy.